

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
DISTRICT OF MINNESOTA**

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Damien Lashaun Nelson,

Case No. \_\_\_\_\_

Plaintiff,

v.

Burnsville Police Department and Detective  
Brad Robert Litke, Officer Nickolas Larson,  
Ray Gutzman, Police Officers John Doe and  
Jane Doe 1-3, Burnsville Employees; whose  
identities are presently unknown to Plaintiff,  
in their individual and Official Capacities,

**NOTICE OF REMOVAL**

Defendants.

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TO: UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF MINNESOTA  
AND PLAINTIFF PRO SE DAMIEN LASHAUN NELSON, 970 PICKETT  
STREET N., BAYPORT, MINNESOTA 55003-1489.

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE** that Defendants Burnsville Police Department, Detective Brad Robert Litke, Officer Nick Larson, and Officer Roy Gutzman<sup>1</sup> (the “Defendants”) hereby demand removal of the above-entitled case from Minnesota’s First Judicial District, Dakota County, to the United States District Court, District of Minnesota, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331, 1441(a) and (c), and 1446(a). Defendants assert as follows:

1. That attached hereto and marked as Exhibit “A” is a true and correct copy of the Complaint and Demand for Jury Trial dated May 23, 2025 filed in the Dakota County action on June 2, 2025.

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<sup>1</sup> Incorrectly identified in the Complaint as “Ray Gutzman”.

2. That attached hereto and marked as Exhibit “B” is a true and correct copy of the Civil Summons dated May 23, 2025 filed in the Dakota County action on June 2, 2025.

3. That attached hereto and marked as Exhibit “C” is a true and correct copy of the Affidavits of Service by the Dakota County Sheriff showing that Defendants were served on June 17, 2025.

4. That attached hereto and marked as Exhibit “D” is a true and correct copy of the Order Granting Fee Waiver Request dated June 2, 2025.

5. That attached hereto and marked as Exhibit “E” is a true and correct copy of the district court’s Register of Actions for Court File No. 19HA-CV-25-3514 – *Nelson v. Burnsville Police Department, et al.*, with a copy of all filings publicly available in the state court proceedings as of the date of this notice.

6. That the above documents constitute all process and pleadings to date.

7. That Plaintiff’s Complaint, while venued in state district court, asserts alleged violations of his “constitutional rights” for seizure of Plaintiff’s property without a warrant in violation of the Fourth Amendment and which is properly made pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1983.

8. Plaintiff has pleaded a federal claim that could have been brought in federal court under the original jurisdiction of 28 U.S.C. § 1331 because of the federal questions arising out of the alleged violations of his “constitutional rights”.

9. That contemporaneous with the filing of this Notice, this Notice is being provided to Plaintiff and the District Court Administrator, County of Dakota, State of Minnesota, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1446(d).

10. Defendants respectfully submit that removal of this action is proper and that this Court has jurisdiction to adjudicate Plaintiff's claims.

**WHEREFORE**, Defendants respectfully request that this case proceed in the United States District Court, District of Minnesota, as an action properly removed.

Dated: July 8, 2025

**JARDINE, LOGAN & O'BRIEN, PLLP**

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Department, Brad Litke, Nick Larson, and Roy  
Gutzman*